

# Memorandum



**Date:** March 10, 2014

**To:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor

**Subject:** South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center Status Report

CRC

Agenda Item No. 7(A)

The third season of the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) commenced on October 1, 2013. The Center has welcomed 11,638 patrons for the month of December and January. Since the Grand Opening in October 2011, the Center has seen 121,452 patrons attend events at the facility.

In January and February, the Center presented the following shows: Singer Johnny Rodgers (January 3 and 4), Black Creek Nights with Albert Castiglia and The Roosevelt Trio (January 17), Broadway's *Godspell* (January 18 and 19), Kurt Elling (January 24), The Wet Spots (February 1), Complexions Contemporary Ballet (February 8), Take6 (February 9), Driving Miss Daisy performed by the Walnut Street Theatre Company (February 21 and 22), Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live (February 23), and Black Creek Nights with Elastic Bond and Zona de Bomba (February 28).

New Theatre, a local South Florida theater company with over twenty years of history in Miami, recently announced their relocation to the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center. In honor of Black History month, M Ensemble, South Florida's oldest black theater company has also committed to having a presence at the Center.

In January and February, the Center had the following rental clients: Miami Sites photo shoot for a Jessica London catalogue (January 9 and February 6), Theatre South Atlanta's production of *I Have A Dream* (January 9-15), Miami Symphony Orchestra Concert (January 25), ITD Miami-Dade County meeting (January 27), M Ensemble's production of *Knock Me A Kiss* (February 5-23), New Theatre's production of *Visiting Hours* (February 7-March 2); South Dade Gospelfest (February 16), and Superintendent's Dance Showcase (February 19).

*The Miami Herald* and NBC 6 ran preview feature stories on Kurt Elling and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. Both artists were given opportunities to perform live on the midday entertainment show 6 In The Mix. *The Miami Herald* also ran a story on New Theatre's move to SMDCAC, promoted their first production at the Center, and published a positive review for the production of *Visiting Hours*. The paper also ran a positive review of M Ensemble's *Knock Me A Kiss*. WDNA 88.9FM interviewed Kurt Elling live on the station promoting the show with a 20 minute series on his music. HOT 105 interviewed Claude McKnight from Take6 for a preview piece on the show.

Recent education and outreach activities at the Center include the following events with Complexions Contemporary Dance: a FREE showcase at INKUB8 in Wynwood for the dance community; a FREE dance class at the Center for local advanced and professional dancers; a lecture

demonstration with Pridelines, a group that supports LGBT youth; and a FREE workshop for Miami Dade College Kendall campus dance students. Miami Dade College Kendall campus vocal students attended a sound check with jazz singer Kurt Elling and also a sound check with Take6 and had a pre-show meet and greet with the group.

For a complete listing of upcoming shows and events, please visit the Center's website, [www.smdcac.org](http://www.smdcac.org).

Since the beginning of the current season, which began in October, the Center's volunteer program has saved the County \$41,928 in staffing costs at performances, events and administrative/clerical support.

## BACKGROUND

The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center is located on S.W. 211 Street in Cutler Bay and is a multidisciplinary arts center designed to showcase the performing arts. The design team was led by architectural and engineering firm Arquitectonica International, Inc, and also included: theater consultant Fisher Dachs Associates, Inc.; acoustical and sound and communications consultant Artec Consultants, Inc.; and arts management consultant AMS Planning & Research Corp.

The Center's 966-seat state-of-the-art Theater Building includes a fly tower, orchestra pit, front of house spaces (box office, lobby, restrooms, concessions, etc.), back of house support spaces (dressing rooms, storage and work areas, administrative offices, etc.) and a multi-purpose rehearsal space. The separate Activities Building of the Center houses an informal performance space, and smaller multi-purpose spaces for lectures, classes, or community gatherings. The Center's two buildings are joined by an outdoor promenade leading to a gently-sloping lawn for outdoor concerts and festivals along the Black Creek Canal.

Through Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places Program, the Center has major public art works created by Miami artist Robert Chambers. An innovative light piece illuminates the translucent inner lobby wall with changing light designs created by computer-programmed LED fixtures. In addition, the lobby features two marble sculptures also created by Robert Chambers.



Michael Spring

Senior Advisor, Office of the Mayor

## South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center Attachment

### Black Creek Nights Flyer

**BLACK CREEK NIGHTS AT SMDCAC!**

**FRI JAN 17**  
**ROOSEVELT**  
**TRIO**  
Roosevelt (The Lee Boys) leaves an indelible mark on listeners flooring audiences with his lightning-fast pedal steel guitar slide work!

**ROOSEVELT "The PR"**

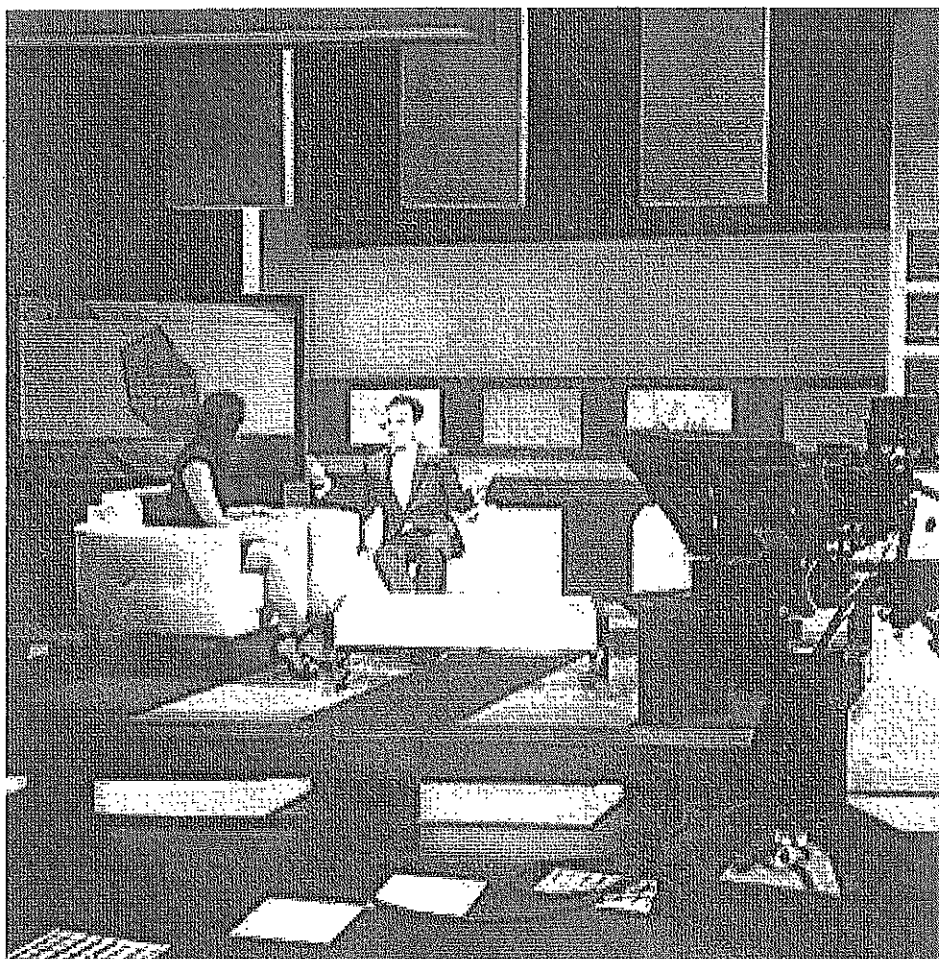
**FRI JAN 17**  
**ALBERT CASTIGLIA**  
Blues musician Albert Castiglia, with his muscular vocal style, incendiary guitar work, and fine songwriting, are signs of an artist who's in it for the love of music.

**HOSTED BY MR. PAUER**  
Mr. Pauer is a Latin Grammy® nominated producer & re-mixer. As a DJ & producer, he is one of the pioneers of Latin electronic.

**SOUTH MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER**  
www.facebook.com/SouthMiamiDadeCulturalArtsCenter  
www.twitter.com/smdcac BlackCreekNights  
smdcac.org 786.573.5300

**DOORS OPEN @ 8PM \$10 COVER**  
**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
**SMDCAC.ORG 786.573.5300**  
1650 SW 211th St, Cutler Bay, FL 33185

Kurt Elling At NBC 6



M Ensemble's *Knock Me A Kiss* Promo Photo

